

# ALFALFA IS OUR FAMILY FARMING OPERATION

Myron Ellis  
Mercer County Hay Producer

Ellis Family Farm is a 5th generation family farm located in Harrodsburg, KY. Currently we farm 1250 acres total of which 870 acres is owned and the remainder is leased. We buy and resale between 1500-1800 head of feeder cattle per year and have 100 head of brood cows. The cattle operation feed is completely supplied by the first cutting of our 580 acres of alfalfa and alfalfa grass mix hay. From the second cutting on, we produce small square bales of alfalfa for the horse market in four states. Our normal production of square bales ranges between 75,000 and 100,000 bales per year. We also buy hay from local producers to resale to meet our customers' needs.

Being a family farm we depend on mostly family members for our labor source. We employ three full time family members and one part time family member that is currently a high school student. We also have two full time employees. With such a small labor force we depend heavily on mechanization to handle the square bales as well as feed and care for the cattle.